

Appendix 3

Saved Policy: Vale of Evesham Heavy Goods Vehicle Control Zone (Policy INF6)

11.6.1 Through maintaining a co-ordinated and co-operative approach to relevant local planning policy, the Council has long been a partner of Wychavon District Council and Stratford on Avon District Council in seeking to mitigate the impact of HGV traffic in the Vale of Evesham. Evidence justifies retention of the policy.

Policy INF6

VALE OF EVESHAM HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE CONTROL ZONE

Proposals for employment development which would generate additional Heavy Goods Vehicle trips within the Vale of Evesham Heavy Goods Vehicles Control Zone, as identified on the Policies Map, will be accompanied by a Transport Assessment showing how the supply and distribution routes proposed relate to the Heavy Good Vehicles Route Network.

11.6.2 The NPPF makes it clear that policies relating to transport have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development but also in contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives.

11.6.3 The Vale of Evesham is an important area for the processing and redistribution of food products. An increasing proportion of fruit and vegetables is imported and consequently the number of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) has risen. For villages in the area, this increased level of HGV traffic has affected the quality of life of residents through the generation of increased noise, vibration and atmospheric pollution.

11.6.4 To mitigate the impact of HGV traffic this policy seeks to ensure that the road haulage industry uses, wherever possible having regard to new development proposals, the most appropriate roads for HGVs travelling within and through the Vale of Evesham.

11.6.5 Although these HGV traffic issues are primarily within Wychavon District, they do go beyond its boundaries into Cotswold District and Stratford on Avon District. All three planning authorities are promoting a similar policy in their Local Plans and will continue to work with the three Highway Authorities and the Worcestershire Freight Quality Partnership (as identified in the LTP3 Multimodal Freight Policy 1) in its implementation.

11.6.6 It may be, for instance, that a proposed employment development within Cotswold District that is located outside the Heavy Goods Vehicle Control Zone would nevertheless use the road network within the Zone as its primary access and egress route. The Cotswold District policy is therefore worded slightly differently from that of Wychavon and Stratford-on-Avon to take account of that possibility.